

## House Resolution No. 2358

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who have demonstrated the strength and depth of their devotion to the citizens of local communities and neighborhoods through the longevity of their public service; and

**Whereas**, Clifford Zelch of St. Louis, Missouri, was one of two paid firefighters when the Mehlville Fire Protection District was formed in 1954; and

**Whereas**, appointed the first Fire Marshal of the District in 1955 and named Fire Chief on January 1, 1956, Clifford Zelch held that important position for twenty-seven years; and

**Whereas**, Clifford Zelch retired from the Mehlville Fire Protection District on October 31, 1985, after thirty-one years of service and after having stalwartly led the organization through its transition from volunteer to career firefighters, construction of seven engine houses strategically placed for the most efficient fire coverage, adoption of a Fire Prevention Bureau/Code, improvement from an ISO 9/10 rating to a 4, and creation of the South County Fire Alarm Dispatch Center, Emergency Medical Services, Training Division with an instructor, and Vehicle Maintenance Program with a mechanic; and

**Whereas**, Clifford Zelch deserves further mention of his efforts as president of the Greater St. Louis County Fire Chiefs Association, president of South County Fire Chiefs Association, president and board member of South County Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, Missouri Mules, National Fire Protection Association, Lions Club, Optimist Club, Scottish Rite, Shriners, and Gardenville Lodge Temple Blue; and

**Whereas**, universally praised for instructing rural fire departments throughout the state, Clifford Zelch is also understandably proud of his successes as a family man who is the beloved father of Holly Bulfin, Brian Zelch, and Brad Zelch, and the wonderful grandfather of Alicia Bulfin, Caitlin Bulfin, Alex Zelch, Stacey Adams, Jamie Obed, and B.J. Zelch:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar fire fighting career, leadership, and achievements of Clifford Zelch and to convey to him this legislative body's deepest gratitude for his overall commitment to excellence while serving as Fire Chief and our best wishes for many more personal successes in life yet to come; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Clifford Zelch of St. Louis, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Sue Schoemehl  
District No. 100

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2385, adopted April 30, 2003.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker